

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| Applicant's or agent's file reference 301925WO/PDJ | FOR FURTHER ACTION see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below. | |
| International application No. PCT/GB 03/04884 | International filing date (day/month/year) 11/11/2003 | (Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 11/11/2002 |
| Applicant REILOR HOLDINGS LIMITED | | |

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 4 sheets.

☒ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

- a. With regard to the language, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ the international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

- b. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

☐ contained in the international application in written form.

☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.

☐ the statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.

☐ the statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished

2. ☐ Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box I).

3. ☐ Unity of invention is lacking (see Box II).

4. With regard to the title,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the abstract,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. The figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is Figure No.

☒ as suggested by the applicant.

☐ because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

☐ because this figure better characterizes the invention.

1
☐ None of the figures.



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- 3 FEB 2003

Ans'd

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Your Reference: 301925GB/PDJ
Application No: GB 0226244.2

30 January 2003

Dear Sirs

Patents Act 1977: Search Report under Section 17(5)

I enclose two copies of my search report and two copies of the citations.

Plurality of invention

I consider that your application relates to more than one invention as follows:

- i) The invention as defined in claim 1 characterised by link elements having abutting shoulder portions
- ii) The invention as defined in claim 27 characterised by link elements having male and female portions

My search report relates to the first invention only. If you want the other invention searched, you should file a further Patents Form 9/77.

Publication

I estimate that, provided you have met all formal requirements, preparations for publication of your application will be completed soon after **6 April 2004**. You will then receive a letter informing you of completion and telling you the publication number and date of publication.



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Application No: GB 0226244.2

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Amendment/withdrawal

If you wish to file amended claims for inclusion with the published application, or to withdraw the application to prevent publication, you must do so before the preparations for publication are completed. **No reminder will be issued.** If you write to the Office less than 3 weeks before the above completion date, please mark your letter prominently: **"URGENT - PUBLICATION IMMINENT"**.

Yours faithfully

Andrew P Jenner
Examiner



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Application No: GB 0226244.2
Claims searched: 1 - 26, 31

Examiner: Andrew P Jenner
Date of search: 29 January 2003

Patents Act 1977 : Search Report under Section 17

Documents considered to be relevant:

| Category | Relevant to claims | Identity of document and passage or figure of particular relevance | |
|----------|--------------------|--|---|
| X | 1 at least | US 5015022 A | McGUIRE - see link 2 and chain 30 in figures 1 and 2 respectively; and biasing means 120 in figures 3 - 4 |
| X | 1 at least | US 1962291 A | ANDERSON - see figures |

Categories:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| X | Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step | A | Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art. |
| Y | Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category. | P | Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of this invention. |
| & | Member of the same patent family | E | Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of this application. |

Field of Search:

Search of GB, EP, WO & US patent documents classified in the following areas of the UKC^v:

E2M

Worldwide search of patent documents classified in the following areas of the IPC⁷:

The following online and other databases have been used in the preparation of this search report:

WPI, EPODOC, JAPIO